CALGARY MERALS

Last Avro Aero pilot dies

CanWest News Service

The last of the test pilots who developed Canada's legendary Avro Arrow fighter jet has died in Washington State, where he finished his career with Boeing after John Diefenbaker's government scrapped the program.

Peter Cope was one of four flyers who tested the CF-105 interceptor aircraft — the most advanced jet fighter of its day — when it was being designed in the 1950s as a defence against the Cold War threat.

He died of a heart attack on April 4 at the age of 83.